4 October 1966

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE RELATING TO NATIONAL SECURITY

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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<u>USSR - Eastern Europe</u>: The outlook for the 1966 harvest in the USSR and Eastern Europe is excellent.

In the USSR, according to preliminary US estimates, the harvest will approach the record set in 1964. The wheat crop, which is already in, is estimated at 60-65 million metric tons, well above the annual average. Prospects in Eastern Europe are generally good and in the Balkans excellent. East European bread-grain production is expected to be only slightly below the high level reached in 1965, and the harvest of coarse grains, especially corn, will exceed that of 1965.

In both the USSR and Eastern Europe sugar beets, potatoes, vegetables, and sunflowers have done well. The favorable outlook for feed grain and roughage is promising for livestock production at least through the first quarter of 1967.

With a good harvest in prospect, the USSR's contracts to import almost four million metric tons of wheat in fiscal 1967 appear to be aimed at replenishing stocks and fulfilling part of its commitments to Eastern Europe and Cuba. East European grain import needs in fiscal 1967 are expected to fall several hundred thousand tons below the nearly nine million metric tons imported the previous year.

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NOTES

Guatemala: Cesar Montes, a former law student and close associate of Luis Turcios, has succeeded Turcios as leader of the Guatemalan Communist Party's action arm, the FAR. Turcios was killed in an automobile accident on 2 October. The change of leadership may initially cause some disorientation, but is not likely to have a substantial effect on the FAR's ability to carry on guerrilla activity. The organization may soon start a new series of terrorist acts to prove that its capabilities and morale have not been impaired.

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